

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

5 AUGUST 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Manila
Conference

a. The confusion and misunderstanding generated at most of the sessions in Manila this past week have hardly been dispelled by the concluding communique issued this morning.

b. It is hard to tell from the vaguely worded and apparently superficial "agreements" enumerated exactly what was accomplished during the six-day hassle.

c. One thing is clear:

In his closing statement, Sukarno, visibly annoyed with Rahman, gave no indication that he would abandon his policy of "confrontation."

d. There is nothing specific in the joint statement about postponement of Malaysia. It simply notes that "before Malaysia is established," the UN Secretary General or his representative should determine the wishes of the people of North Borneo and Sarawak by a "new approach." This is to include an investigation of recent elections held in both areas.

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e. The Indonesians are convinced this will result in postponement.

f. There is also no mention of what would happen if the voting in these areas were found to be invalid.

g. The statement says Malaya has agreed to "consult" with the governments of the UK, Sarawak, and North Borneo on behalf of the three signatory powers and will request that they cooperate with the UN investigation.

h. The parties agreed that it would be "desirable" to send observers to "witness" the activities of the UN teams.

i. On the question of foreign bases, the communique states that these installations--"temporary in nature--should not be allowed to be used directly or indirectly to subvert the national independence of any of the three countries...."

j. The three heads of state also issued a "Manila Declaration" pledging future cooperation in matters of common concern.

2. North - South
Korea

a. Today's press accounts of a protracted firefight in the demilitarized zone are reported by 8th Army intelligence to be highly colored exaggerations.

b. A 1st Cavalry Division outpost sighted a small North Korean patrol in the pre-dawn hours Monday and opened fire with automatic weapons. This was returned by the patrol in the minor skirmish which ensued.

c. No damage was apparent to either group.

3. India-US

a.

India would not abrogate the VOA agreement.

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b.

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4. UAR-Yemen

a. UAR shelling this past week of three Saudi villages in the 12-mile demilitarized border zone will further complicate the UN's task.

b. UN observers, in company with the Saudis, have inspected the villages and confirmed that they were targets of howitzer fire. They also confirmed that last week's bombing incident occurred some 25 miles north of the Saudi-Yemen border.

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c. Faysal's advisers tell us that it is becoming increasingly difficult to persuade the Prince that he should continue to abide by his part of the agreement.

d. Not surprisingly, the UN has found it impossible to get meaningful withdrawal figures from the UAR command in Sana.

e. All they get is information from time to time on unit movements which, it has become clear, are actually rotations.

5. Sino-Soviet
Dispute

a. The Soviets lost no time striking back at the Chinese for the insults Peiping published on Saturday.

b. Moscow, as might be expected, took particular offense at the Chinese attempt to turn the Soviet people against their government. Such talk, the statement says, could only come from those who are "doomed by history" and are themselves standing on shaky ground.

(Cont'd)

c. The Soviets take the occasion to reject Peiping's call for a summit meeting on nuclear disarmament, which they say is merely a cover for China's refusal to sign the test ban agreement.

d. With the verbal duel now at point blank range, the Chinese are apparently preparing for the day when the Communist movement splits completely in two.

e. They continue to consolidate regional groupings of their supporters among Communists around the world.

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NOTES

A. South Vietnam Another Buddhist monk put himself to death with burning kerosene yesterday in Phan Thiet, a coastal town some 90 miles east of Saigon. Local authorities confiscated the body and Buddhist leaders are now demanding it be returned.

B. UAR-Morocco The Cairo press had worked up a vicious campaign against Morocco's King Hassan. [REDACTED]

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C. China-USSR Soviet foreign trade figures for last year confirm a further decline in Sino-Soviet trade and show China's exports to the USSR to have been more than double its imports (\$516 million against \$233 million). This exceeds by more than \$100 million the export surplus China needed to meet last year's installment on its debt of \$320 million to the USSR. China wants to get rid of this debt as soon as it can.

D. Cuba-UK [REDACTED]

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